

General Assembly

## **Amendment**

February Session, 2016

LCO No. 5995



## Offered by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. DUFF, 25<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. COLEMAN, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dist. SEN. DOYLE, 9<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. SLOSSBERG, 14<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. GERRATANA, 6<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. CASSANO, 4<sup>th</sup> Dist. SEN. MCLACHLAN, 24<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 15

File No. 574

Cal. No. 361

"AN ACT ADOPTING THE REQUIREMENTS OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS V. FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION AND REVISING CERTAIN BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS STATUTES."

- 1 In line 43, after "commission" insert "that is adverse to a party"
- 2 Strike lines 80 to 83, inclusive, in their entirety, and insert the
- 3 following in lieu thereof:
- 4 "(6) Each board or commission [shall] <u>may</u> meet at least once in each
- 5 quarter of a calendar year and at such other times as the chairperson or
- 6 the Commissioner of Consumer Protection deems necessary. [or at the
- 7 request of a majority of the board or commission members.] A majority
- 8 of the members shall constitute a"
- 9 Strike lines 109 to 137, inclusive, in their entirety, and insert the
- 10 following in lieu thereof:

11 "(8) Each examining board within the Department of Consumer 12 Protection or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall conduct 13 any hearing or other action required for an application submitted 14 pursuant to section 20-333, as amended by this act, and any completed 15 renewal application submitted pursuant to section 20-335 not later 16 than (A) thirty days after the date of submission for such application or 17 completed renewal application, as applicable, or (B) a period of time 18 deemed appropriate by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, but 19 not to exceed sixty days after such date of submission.

- 20 (b) Each board or commission within the Department of Consumer 21 Protection under section 21a-6, as amended by this act, that makes a 22 proposed final decision that is adverse to a party as described in 23 subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section, shall submit such 24 proposed decision to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection. Not 25 later than thirty calendar days after receipt of any such proposed 26 decision, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall notify such 27 board or commission that the commissioner shall render the final 28 decision concerning such matter. Not later than thirty days after 29 receipt of any such proposed decision, the commissioner shall 30 approve, modify or reject the proposed decision or remand the 31 proposed decision for further review or for the taking of additional 32 evidence. The decision of the commissioner shall be the final decision 33 in accordance with section 4-180 for purposes of reconsideration in 34 accordance with section 4-181a or appeal to the Superior Court in 35 accordance with section 4-183."
- In line 138, strike "and (8)" and insert "to (9), inclusive," in lieu thereof
- Strike lines 148 and 149 in their entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:
- "such boards or commissions. The department shall distribute [monthly] <u>quarterly</u> a list of all complaints received within the previous [month] <u>quarter</u> to the"

Strike lines 166 to 170, inclusive, in their entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

- 45 "that such complaint lacks probable cause. [Notice of such dismissal
- 46 shall be given only after approval by the appropriate board or
- 47 commission. The commissioner may authorize a settlement if the
- 48 settlement is approved by the complainant, the practitioner, and the
- 49 board or commission.] The commissioner may bring a complaint
- 50 before"
- In line 178, before "All" insert an opening bracket
- In line 182, after "basis." insert a closing bracket
- After line 182, insert the following:
- 54 "(9) The department may contract with a third party, if the
- 55 commissioner deems it necessary, [and if the appropriate board or
- 56 commission consents,] to administer licensing examinations and
- 57 perform all attendant administrative functions in connection with such
- 58 examination and to monitor continuing professional education
- 59 requirements, and may require the payment of a fee to such third
- 60 party."
- After line 189, insert the following:
- 62 "(1) The commissioner shall, in consultation with each board or
- 63 commission, exercise the functions of licensing, certification,
- 64 registration, accreditation of schools and the rendering of findings,
- 65 <u>orders and adjudications.</u>"
- In line 190, bracket "(1)" and insert "(2)" after the closing bracket
- In line 209, bracket "(2)" and insert "(3)" after the closing bracket
- In line 219, bracket "(3)" and insert "(4)" after the closing bracket
- 69 Strike lines 694 to 714, inclusive, in their entirety and insert the
- 70 following in lieu thereof:

"(2) The provisions of this section shall not apply (A) to any such board, commission, committee or body whose members are elected wholly or partially on the basis of a geographical division of the state or political subdivision, (B) to a legislative body of a municipality (i) having a town meeting as its legislative body, or (ii) for which the charter or a special act, on January 1, 1987, provided otherwise, [or] (C) to the city council of an unconsolidated city within a town and the town council of such town if the town has a town council and a representative town meeting, the town charter provides for some form of minority representation in the election of members of the representative town meeting, and the city has a city council and a body having the attributes of a town meeting, or (D) to the board of directors and other officers of any district, as defined in section 7-324, having annual receipts from all sources not in excess of two hundred fifty thousand dollars."

After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and internal references accordingly:

"Sec. 501. Section 21a-9 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

- (a) With regard to the boards and commissions within the Department of Consumer Protection, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection (1) shall adopt uniform rules of procedure, consistent with chapter 54, for hearings and other proceedings to be conducted by the boards or commissions or by the commissioner and for the giving of notice to persons affected by such proceedings, and (2) may, where authorized by statute, adopt regulations regarding any subject within the jurisdiction of a board or commission.
- (b) Any rules of procedure and regulations adopted pursuant to this section shall be adopted in accordance with chapter 54. No regulation shall be adopted pursuant to this section until the appropriate board or commission has had reasonable opportunity to review the proposed regulation and to offer comments thereon.

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(c) Each such board or commission may act in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (7) of section 21a-7, as amended by this act, and the commissioner may act in accordance with the provisions of subdivision [(3)] (4) of subsection (b) of section 21a-8, in the case of a practitioner who: (1) Engages in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a license, registration or certificate issued by the board, [or] commission or commissioner or to aid another in obtaining a license, registration or certificate issued by the board, [or] commission or commissioner; (2) performs work beyond the scope of the license, registration or certificate issued by the board, [or] commission or commissioner; (3) illegally uses or transfers a license, registration or certificate issued by the board, [or] commission or commissioner; (4) performs incompetent or negligent work; (5) makes false, misleading or deceptive representations to the public; (6) has been subject to disciplinary action similar to that specified in subdivision (7) of section 21a-7, as amended by this act, or subdivision [(3)] (4) of subsection (b) of section 21a-8 by a duly authorized professional agency of the United States, any state within the United States, the District of Columbia, a United States possession or territory or a foreign jurisdiction; or (7) violates any provision of the general statutes or any regulation established thereunder, relating to the practitioner's profession or occupation.

- (d) In order to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Sherman Act, 15 USC 1 et seq., as amended from time to time, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall reject any proposed final decision of a board or commission submitted for the commissioner's approval pursuant to section 21a-7, as amended by this act, if the commissioner finds such decision will have an anticompetitive effect.
- 131 [(d)] (e) As used in chapters 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 396, 400g, 400j, 132 482 and 400l:
- 133 (1) "Certificate" includes the whole or part of any Department of 134 Consumer Protection permit which the department issues under 135 authority of the general statutes and which (A) authorizes practice of

the profession by certified persons but does not prohibit the practice of the profession by others, not certified, (B) prohibits a person from falsely representing that such person is certified to practice the profession unless the person holds a certificate issued by the department, and (C) requires as a condition of certification that a person submit specified credentials to the department which attest to qualifications to practice the profession.

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- (2) "License" includes the whole or part of any Department of Consumer Protection permit, approval, or similar form of permission which the department issues under authority of the general statutes and which requires (A) practice of the profession by licensed persons only, (B) demonstration of competence to practice by examination or other means and meeting of certain minimum standards, and (C) enforcement of standards by the department or regulatory board or commission.
- (3) "Registration" includes the whole or part of any Department of Consumer Protection permit which the department issues under authority of the general statutes and which (A) requires persons to place their names on a list maintained by the department before they can engage in the practice of a specified profession or occupation, (B) does not require a person to demonstrate competence by examination or other means, and (C) may be revoked or suspended by the commissioner for cause.
- Sec. 502. Section 20-294 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):
  - The board may suspend for a definite period, not to exceed one year, or revoke any license or certificate of authority issued under this chapter, after notice and hearing in accordance with the regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or may officially censure any person holding any such license or certificate of authority and may assess a civil penalty of up to one thousand dollars, (1) if it is shown that the license or certificate was obtained through

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fraud or misrepresentation, (2) if the holder of the license or certificate has been found guilty by the board or by a court of competent jurisdiction of any fraud or deceit in such holder's professional practice or has been convicted of a felony, (3) if the holder of the license or certificate has been found guilty by the board of gross incompetency or of negligence in the planning or construction of buildings, or (4) if it is shown to the satisfaction of the board that the holder of the license or certificate has violated any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted under this chapter. Any such suspension or revocation of a license or certificate by the board shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions 179 of subsection (b) of section 21a-7, as amended by this act. The board may reissue any such license or certificate which has been revoked, and may modify the suspension of any such license or certificate which has been suspended.

Sec. 503. Section 20-296 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

The board may, upon the complaint of any one or more licensed architects or on its own motion, request the Department of Consumer Protection to inquire into the existence of any violations of the provisions of this chapter or the regulations adopted under this chapter. If the board determines that a violation of any such provision or regulation exists, the board may issue an appropriate order to the person or persons found to be so violating such provision or regulation, providing for the immediate discontinuance of such violation, or may assess a civil penalty of up to one thousand dollars, or both. Any such issuance of an order or assessment of a penalty by the board shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7, as amended by this act.

Sec. 504. Section 20-302 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

2016LCO05995-R00-AMD.DOC LCO No. 5995 7 of 31

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No person shall practice or offer to practice the profession of engineering in any of its branches, including land surveying, or use any title or description tending to convey the impression that such person is a professional engineer or a land surveyor, unless such person has been licensed or is exempt under the provisions of this chapter. The following shall be considered as minimum evidence satisfactory to the board or Commissioner of Consumer Protection that the applicant is qualified for licensure as a professional engineer, engineer-in-training, land surveyor or surveyor-in-training, respectively:

(1) Professional engineer: Graduation from an approved course in engineering in a school or college approved by the board or commissioner as of satisfactory standing, a specific record of an additional four years of active practice in engineering work, which shall be of a character satisfactory to the board or commissioner, and the successful passing of a written or written and oral examination prescribed by the board, with the consent of the commissioner, the first part of which shall test the applicant's knowledge of fundamental engineering subjects, including mathematics and the physical sciences, and the second part of which shall test the applicant's ability to apply the principles of engineering to the actual practice of engineering. In lieu of graduation as specified in this subdivision, the board or commissioner may accept, as an alternative, six years or more of experience in engineering work which shall be of a character satisfactory to the board and which shall indicate knowledge, skill and education approximating that attained through graduation from an approved course in engineering. The board or commissioner may waive the written examination requirement in the case of an applicant who submits a specific record of twenty years or more of lawful practice in engineering work which shall be of a character satisfactory to the board or commissioner and which shall indicate that the applicant is competent to be in responsible charge of such work, and may waive the first part of the written examination for an applicant who has completed an approved course in engineering and has at least

LCO No. 5995 2016LCO05995-R00-AMD.DOC **8** of 31

eight years of engineering experience.

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(2) Engineer-in-training: The board <u>or commissioner</u> may license as an engineer-in-training a person who is a graduate of an approved course in engineering or who has had the alternative experience prescribed in subdivision (1) of this section and who has successfully passed the first part of the examination specified in said subdivision. Licensure as an engineer-in-training shall remain valid for a period of ten years from date of issuance of an applicant's first license toward meeting in part the requirements of subdivision (1) of this section.

(3) Land surveyor: Graduation from a school or college approved by the board or commissioner as of satisfactory standing, including the completion of an approved course in surveying, a specific record of an additional three years of active practice in land surveying, which shall be of a character satisfactory to the board or commissioner, and the successful passing of a written or written and oral examination, prescribed by the board with the consent of the commissioner, for the purpose of testing the applicant's knowledge of the fundamentals of land surveying and the procedures pertaining to land surveying. In lieu of graduation as specified in this subdivision, the board or commissioner may accept, as an alternative, six years or more of experience in surveying work which shall be of a character satisfactory to the board or commissioner and which shall indicate knowledge, skill and education approximating that attained through completion of an approved course in surveying. The board or commissioner may waive the written examination requirement in the case of an applicant who submits a specific record of sixteen years or more of lawful practice in surveying work, at least ten of which shall have been in land surveying, of a character satisfactory to the board <u>commissioner</u> and which shall indicate that the applicant is competent to be in responsible charge of such work.

(4) Surveyor-in-training: The board <u>or commissioner</u> may license as a surveyor-in-training a person who is a graduate of a school or college approved by the board <u>or commissioner</u> or who is scheduled to

LCO No. 5995 2016LCO05995-R00-AMD.DOC **9** of 31

graduate from such an institution within three months after applying 267 268 for licensure, or who has had six years or more of experience in 269 surveying work of a character satisfactory to the board or 270 commissioner and which indicates knowledge, skill and education 271 approximating that attained through completion of an approved 272 course in surveying, provided any such person has successfully passed 273 part 1 of the national examination relating to fundamentals of land 274 surveying. Licensure as a surveyor-in-training shall remain valid for a 275 period of ten years from the date of issuance of an applicant's first 276 license toward meeting in part the requirements of subdivision (3) of 277 this section.

Sec. 505. Section 20-304 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

The [board shall authorize the] Department of Consumer Protection [to] shall issue a license, upon payment of a fee as provided in section 20-305, to any applicant who [, in the opinion of the board,] has satisfactorily met all the requirements of this chapter. The issuance of a license by the department shall be evidence that the person named in such license is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a licensed professional engineer, or of a licensed land surveyor, while such license remains valid. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as permitting a person licensed only as a land surveyor to practice any other branch of the profession of engineering nor as permitting a licensed professional engineer to practice land surveying unless such person is a holder of a valid combined license as professional engineer and land surveyor. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, with the advice and assistance of the board, may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, pertaining to the design and use of seals by licensees under this chapter. Each agency, department, board or commission of the state or political subdivision of the state shall accept, subject to review for conformance with all approved policies and standards, any final drawings, specifications, plots, reports, papers or documents relative to the practice of a licensed professional engineer or land surveyor when sealed and submitted on behalf of an

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301 employer by a licensed professional engineer or licensed land 302 surveyor.

- Sec. 506. Subsection (a) of section 20-304a of the 2016 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):
- 306 (a) The board <u>or Commissioner of Consumer Protection</u> may issue 307 an automatic fire sprinkler system layout technician's license to any 308 person who has received level III certification from the National 309 Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies in the field of 310 fire protection engineering technology or a subfield of automatic 311 sprinkler system layout. Any person who is a professional engineer 312 licensed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter shall be 313 exempt from such licensing requirement.
- Sec. 507. Section 20-307a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

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- The Department of Consumer Protection may, upon request of the board or on its own motion, inquire into the existence of violations of the provisions of this chapter. If, after notice and opportunity for hearing as provided in the regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, the board determines that a violation of any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted under this chapter exists, the board may issue an appropriate order to the person or persons found to be so violating such provision or regulation, providing for the immediate discontinuance of such violation. Any such issuance of an order by the board shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 508. Section 20-312 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):
- 330 (a) No person shall act as a real estate broker or real estate 331 salesperson without a license issued by the commission or the

LCO No. 5995 2016LCO05995-R00-AMD.DOC 11 of 31

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<u>Commissioner of Consumer Protection</u>, unless exempt under this chapter. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may enter into any contract for the purpose of administratively processing the renewal of licenses on behalf of the commission.

(b) The practice of or the offer to practice real estate brokerage business in this state by individual licensed real estate brokers or real estate salespersons as a corporation, limited liability company or partnership, a material part of the business of which includes real estate brokerage, is permitted, provided (1) the personnel of such corporation, limited liability company or partnership who engage in the real estate brokerage business as real estate brokers or real estate salespersons, and the real estate brokers whose ownership, control, membership or partnership interest is credited toward the requirements of subdivision (3) of this subsection, are licensed or exempt from licensure under this chapter, (2) the corporation, limited liability company or partnership has been issued a real estate broker license by the commission or the commissioner as provided in this section and has paid the license or renewal fee required for a real estate broker's license as set forth in section 20-314, as amended by this act, and (3) except for a publicly traded corporation (A) with respect to a corporation other than a nonstock corporation, one or more real estate brokers own or control fifty-one per cent or more of the total issued shares of the corporation, (B) with respect to a nonstock corporation, one or more real estate brokers constitute at least fifty-one per cent of the members of the nonstock corporation, (C) with respect to a limited liability company, one or more real estate brokers own or control at least fifty-one per cent of the interest in the limited liability company, as defined in section 34-101, or (D) with respect to a partnership, one or more real estate brokers' partnership interest, as defined in section 34-301, constitutes at least fifty-one per cent of the total partnership interest. No such corporation, limited liability company or partnership shall be relieved of responsibility for the conduct or acts of its agents, employees or officers by reason of its compliance with this section, nor shall any individual practicing real estate brokerage be relieved of

LCO No. 5995 2016LCO05995-R00-AMD.DOC **12** of 31

responsibility for real estate services performed by reason of the individual's employment or relationship with such corporation, limited liability company or partnership. The Real Estate Commission may refuse to authorize the issuance or renewal of a license if any facts exist that would entitle the commission to suspend or revoke an existing license.

- (c) A corporation, limited liability company or partnership desiring a real estate broker license shall file with the commission or the commissioner an application on such forms and in such manner as prescribed by the Department of Consumer Protection. Each such corporation, limited liability company or partnership shall file with the commission a designation of at least one individual licensed as a real estate broker in this state who shall be in charge of the real estate brokerage business of such corporation, limited liability company or partnership in this state. Such corporation, limited liability company or partnership shall notify the commission of any change in such designation not later than thirty days after such change becomes effective.
- (d) The Real Estate Commission may impose a fine of not more than one thousand dollars on any corporation, limited liability company or partnership that engages in real estate business without a license required by this section. Any such imposition of a fine by the commission shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 509. Section 20-313 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):
  - Any person possessing the qualifications prescribed in this chapter, and in any regulations adopted under this chapter, who desires to engage in the real estate business shall [make application] apply, in writing, as provided in this chapter, to the commission or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection for the specific license desired.

LCO No. 5995 2016LCO05995-R00-AMD.DOC **13** of 31

Sec. 510. Subsection (c) of section 20-314 of the 2016 supplement to 399 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu 400 thereof (Effective July 1, 2016):

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(c) In order to determine the competency of any applicant for a real estate broker's license or a real estate salesperson's license the commission or Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall, on payment [to the commission] of an application fee of one hundred twenty dollars by an applicant for a real estate broker's license or [on payment to the commission of] an application fee of eighty dollars by an applicant for a real estate salesperson's license, subject such applicant to personal written examination as to the applicant's competency to act as a real estate broker or real estate salesperson, as the case may be. Such examination shall be prepared by the Department of Consumer Protection or by a national testing service designated by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection and shall be administered to applicants by the Department of Consumer Protection or by such testing service at such times and places as the commissioner may deem necessary. The commission or Commissioner of Consumer Protection may waive the uniform portion of the written examination requirement in the case of an applicant who has taken the national testing service examination in another state within two years from the date of application and has received a score deemed satisfactory by the or Commissioner of Consumer Protection. commission Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, establishing passing scores for examinations. In addition to such application fee, applicants taking the examination administered by a national testing service shall be required to pay directly to such testing service an examination fee covering the cost of such examination. Each payment of such application fee shall entitle the applicant to take such examination within the one-year period from the date of payment.

Sec. 511. Subsection (d) of section 20-314 of the 2016 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by section 1 of public act 15-98, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July

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433 (d) (1) Each applicant applying for a real estate broker's license on or 434 after July 1, 2016, shall, before being admitted to such examination, 435 prove to the satisfaction of the commission or the Commissioner of 436 <u>Consumer Protection</u> that the applicant (A) (i) has been actively 437 engaged for at least two years as a licensed real estate salesperson 438 under the supervision of a licensed real estate broker in this state, (ii) 439 has successfully completed a course approved by the commission or 440 commissioner in real estate principles and practices of at least sixty 441 classroom hours of study, (iii) has successfully completed a course 442 approved by the commission or commissioner in real estate legal 443 compliance consisting of at least fifteen classroom hours of study, (iv) 444 has successfully completed a course approved by the commission or 445 <u>commissioner</u> in real estate brokerage principles and practices 446 consisting of at least fifteen classroom hours, and (v) has successfully 447 completed two elective courses, each consisting of fifteen classroom 448 hours of study, as prescribed by the commission or commissioner, or 449 (B) has equivalent experience or education as determined by the 450 commission or commissioner.

- (2) The commission or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall waive the elective courses under subparagraph (A)(v) of subdivision (1) of this subsection if the applicant has successfully completed at least twenty real estate transactions within five years immediately preceding the date of application. As used in this subdivision, "real estate transaction" means any transaction in which real property is legally transferred to another party or in which a lease agreement is executed between a landlord and a tenant.
- (3) Each applicant for a real estate salesperson's license shall, before being admitted to such examination, prove to the satisfaction of the commission or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection that the applicant (A) has successfully completed a course approved by the commission or commissioner in real estate principles and practices consisting of at least sixty classroom hours of study, or (B) has

equivalent experience or education as determined by the commission or commissioner.

- Sec. 512. Subsection (a) of section 20-316 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2016):
- 470 (a) [No license under this chapter shall be denied by the] The 471 commission [to] or Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall not 472 deny a license under this chapter to any applicant who has been 473 convicted of forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false 474 pretenses, extortion, criminal conspiracy to defraud or other like 475 offense or offenses, or to any association or partnership of which such 476 person is a member, or to any corporation of which such person is an 477 officer or in which as a stockholder such person has or exercises a 478 controlling interest either directly or indirectly, except in accordance 479 with the provisions of section 46a-80.
- Sec. 513. Subsection (a) of section 20-317 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2016):
  - (a) A person licensed in another state as a real estate broker or salesperson may become a real estate broker or real estate salesperson in this state by conforming to all of the provisions of this chapter. The commission or Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall recognize a current, valid license issued to a currently practicing, competent real estate broker or real estate salesperson by another state as satisfactorily qualifying the broker or salesperson for a license as a real estate broker or real estate salesperson under this chapter, provided (1) the laws of the state in which the broker or salesperson is licensed require that applicants for licenses as real estate brokers and real estate salespersons establish their competency by written examinations and allow licenses to be issued to residents of the state of Connecticut, licensed under this chapter, without examination, (2) the licensure requirements of such state are substantially similar to or higher than

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497 those of this state, and (3) the broker or salesperson has no disciplinary 498 proceeding or unresolved complaint pending against the broker or 499 salesperson. If the applicant is licensed in a state that does not have such requirements, such applicant shall be required to pass the 500 Connecticut portion of the real estate examination.

Sec. 514. Section 20-320 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

The Department of Consumer Protection may, upon the request of the commission or upon the verified complaint in writing of any person, if such complaint, or such complaint together with evidence, documentary or otherwise, presented in connection with such complaint, shall make out a prima facie case, investigate the actions of any real estate broker or real estate salesperson or any person who assumes to act in any of such capacities within this state. The commission may temporarily suspend or permanently revoke any license issued under the provisions of this chapter and, in addition to or in lieu of such suspension or revocation, may, in its discretion, impose a fine of not more than two thousand dollars at any time when, after proceedings as provided in section 20-321, the commission finds that the licensee has by false or fraudulent misrepresentation obtained a license or that the licensee is guilty of any of the following: (1) Making any material misrepresentation; (2) making any false promise of a character likely to influence, persuade or induce; (3) acting as an agent for more than one party in a transaction without the knowledge of all parties for whom the licensee acts; (4) representing or attempting to represent a real estate broker other than the licensee's employer or the broker with whom the licensee is affiliated, without the express knowledge and consent of the licensee's employer or affiliated broker; (5) failing, within a reasonable time, to account for or remit any moneys coming into the licensee's possession which belong to others; (6) entering into an exclusive listing contract or buyer agency contract which contains a fixed termination date if such contract also provides for an automatic continuation of the period of such contract beyond such date; (7) failing to deliver immediately a copy of any instrument

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to any party or parties executing the instrument, where such instrument has been prepared by the licensee or under the licensee's supervision and where such instrument relates to the employment of the licensee or to any matters pertaining to the consummation of a lease, or the purchase, sale or exchange of real property or any other type of real estate transaction in which the licensee may participate as a broker or a salesperson; (8) conviction in a court of competent jurisdiction of forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, larceny, extortion, conspiracy to defraud, or other like offense or offenses, provided suspension or revocation under this subdivision shall be subject to the provisions of section 46a-80; (9) collecting compensation in advance of services to be performed and failing, upon demand of the person paying the compensation or the commission, to render an accounting of the use of such money; (10) commingling funds of others with the licensee's own, or failing to keep funds of others in an escrow or trustee account; (11) any act or conduct which constitutes dishonest, fraudulent or improper dealings; (12) failing to provide the disclosures required by section 20-325c; (13) a violation of any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted under this chapter. Any such suspension or revocation of a license or imposition of a fine by the commission shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7, as amended by this act. Any fine collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Real Estate Guaranty Fund established pursuant to section 20-324a.

Sec. 515. Section 20-320a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

(a) No real estate broker or real estate salesperson, no person affiliated with such broker or salesperson, and no person engaging in the real estate business may receive a fee, commission or other form of referral fee for the referral of any buyer of real property to (1) an attorney-at-law admitted to practice in this state or any person affiliated with such attorney or (2) any mortgage broker, any lender, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 49-31d, or any person affiliated

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(b) The Department of Consumer Protection may, upon the request of the commission or upon the verified complaint in writing of any person, if such complaint, or such complaint together with evidence, documentary or otherwise, presented in connection with such complaint, shall make out a prima facie case, investigate the actions of any real estate broker or real estate salesperson or any person who assumes to act in any of such capacities within this state. The commission may temporarily suspend or permanently revoke any license issued under the provisions of this chapter, and, in addition to or in lieu of such suspension or revocation, may, in its discretion, impose a fine of not more than one thousand dollars for the first offense at any time when, after proceedings as provided in section 20-321, the commission finds that the licensee is guilty of violating any of the provisions of subsection (a) of this section. Any such suspension or revocation of a license or imposition of a fine by the commission shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7, as amended by this act.

Sec. 516. Section 20-325 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

Any person who engages in the business of a real estate broker or real estate salesperson without obtaining a license as provided in this chapter shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than six months or both, and shall be ineligible to obtain a license for one year from the date of conviction of such offense, except that the commission [, in its discretion,] or Commissioner of Consumer Protection may grant a license to such person within such one-year period upon application and after a hearing on such application.

Sec. 517. Section 20-333 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

LCO No. 5995 2016LCO05995-R00-AMD.DOC **19** of 31

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(a) To obtain a license under this chapter, an applicant shall have attained such applicant's eighteenth birthday and shall furnish such evidence of competency as the appropriate board [, with the consent of or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection [,] shall require. A recommendation for review issued pursuant to section 31-22u shall be sufficient to demonstrate such competency. The applicant shall satisfy such board or the commissioner that such applicant is of good moral character, possesses a diploma or other evidence of graduation from the eighth grade of grammar school, or possesses an equivalent education to be determined on examination and has the requisite skill to perform the work in the trade for which such applicant is applying for a license and can comply with all other requirements of this chapter and the regulations adopted under this chapter. A recommendation for review issued pursuant to section 31-22u shall be sufficient to demonstrate that an applicant possesses such requisite skill and can comply with all other requirements of this chapter and the regulations adopted under this chapter. For any application submitted pursuant to this section that requires a hearing or other action by the applicable examining board or the commissioner, such hearing or other action by the applicable examining board or the commissioner shall occur not later than thirty days after the date of submission for such application. Upon application for any such license, the applicant shall pay to the department a nonrefundable application fee of ninety dollars for a license under subdivisions (2) and (3) of subsection (a) and subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of section 20-334a, or a nonrefundable application fee of one hundred fifty dollars for a license under subdivision (1) of subsection (a), subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (b), subdivision (1) of subsection (c) and subdivisions (1), (2) and (3) of subsection (e) of section 20-334a. Any such application fee shall be waived for persons who present a recommendation for review issued pursuant to section 31-22u.

(b) The department shall conduct such written, oral and practical examinations as the appropriate board, with the consent of the commissioner, deems necessary to test the knowledge of the applicant

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in the work for which a license is being sought. The department shall allow any applicant, who has not participated in an apprenticeship program but presents a recommendation for review issued pursuant to section 31-22u, to sit for any such examination. Any person completing the required apprentice training program for a journeyman's license under section 20-334a, as amended by this act, shall, within thirty days following such completion, apply for a licensure examination given by the department. If an applicant does not pass such licensure examination, the commissioner shall provide each failed applicant with information on how to retake the examination and a report describing the applicant's strengths and weaknesses in such examination. Any apprentice permit issued under section 20-334a, as amended by this act, to an applicant who fails three licensure examinations in any one-year period shall remain in effect if such applicant applies for and takes the first licensure examination given by the department following the one-year period from the date of such applicant's third and last unsuccessful licensure examination. Otherwise, such permit shall be revoked as of the date of the first examination given by the department following expiration of such one-year period.

(c) When an applicant has qualified for a license, the department shall, upon receipt of the license fee or upon waiver of such fee pursuant to section 20-335, issue to such applicant a license entitling such applicant to engage in the work or occupation for which a license was sought and shall register each successful applicant's name and address in the roster of licensed persons authorized to engage in the work or occupation within the appropriate board's authority. All fees and other moneys collected by the department shall be promptly transmitted to the State Treasurer as provided in section 4-32.

Sec. 518. Section 20-333a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, upon the payment of the appropriate fee, as provided in section 20-335, grant a license or

LCO No. 5995 2016LCO05995-R00-AMD.DOC **21** of 31

a card of registration provided for in this chapter, without an examination, to any currently practicing, competent person who holds a similar license or card of registration granted by any other state, licensure jurisdiction within another state, the District of Columbia or any territory or commonwealth of the United States having licensure or registration requirements substantially similar to, or higher than, those of this state, if the licensing authority in such other state, licensure jurisdiction within another state, the District of Columbia or any territory or commonwealth of the United States may grant such similar license or card of registration, without an examination, to any currently practicing, competent licensee or registrant from this state. The commissioner, [with the advice and consent of] in consultation with the appropriate examining board, may adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 in order to carry out the provisions of this section.

Sec. 519. Subsection (c) of section 20-334 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2016):

(c) [Each] The Commissioner of Consumer Protection and each board established under section 20-331 may suspend or revoke any license or certificate granted or issued by it under this chapter if the holder of such license or certificate is convicted of a felony, is grossly incompetent, engages in malpractice or unethical conduct or knowingly makes false, misleading or deceptive representations regarding his work or violates the regulations adopted under this chapter. Before any such license is suspended or revoked, such holder shall be given notice and opportunity for hearing as provided in regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection. Any person whose license has been suspended or revoked may, after ninety days, apply to the board to have such license reinstated. Any such suspension or revocation of a license or certification by the board shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7, as amended by this act.

Sec. 520. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 20-334a of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

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- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the following licenses may be issued by the Department of Consumer Protection, [upon authorization] with the advice and assistance of the boards, under the provisions of section 20-333, as amended by this act:
- (1) (A) An unlimited contractor's license may be issued to a person who has served as a journeyman in the trade for which such person seeks a license for not less than two years and, if such service as a journeyman was outside this state, has furnished evidence satisfactory to the appropriate state board or the department that such service is comparable to similar service in this state, or has furnished satisfactory evidence of education and experience and has passed an examination which has demonstrated that such person is competent in all aspects of such trade to be an unlimited contractor. (B) A limited contractor's license may be issued to a person who fulfills the requirements of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision as to a specific area or areas within the trade for which such person seeks a license. (C) The holder of an unlimited or a limited contractor's license may, within the trade, or the area or areas of the trade, for which such holder has been licensed, furnish supplies and do layout, installation, repair and maintenance work and distribute and handle materials, provided nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to authorize the performance of any action for which licensure is required under the provisions of chapter 390 or 391. Such licensee shall furnish the board or the department with evidence that such licensee will comply with all state requirements pertaining to workers' compensation and unemployment insurance and that such evidence shall be available to any properly interested person prior to the issuance of a license under this subdivision.
- 729 (2) (A) An unlimited journeyman's license may be issued to any person who has completed a bona fide apprenticeship program,

LCO No. 5995 2016LCO05995-R00-AMD.DOC 23 of 31

including not less than four years' experience in the trade for which such person seeks a license, and has demonstrated such person's competency to perform all services included in the trade for which a license is sought by successfully completing the applicable state licensure examination. (B) A limited journeyman's license may be issued to a person who fulfills the requirements of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision in a specific area or areas of the trade for which such person seeks a license, provided the length of experience required may be less than four years for such area or areas of the trade.

- (3) An apprentice's permit may be issued for the performance of work in a trade licensed under the provisions of this chapter, for the purpose of training, which work may be performed only under the supervision of a licensed contractor or journeyman.
- (4) An apprentice permit shall expire upon the failure of the apprentice holding such permit to apply for the first licensure examination given by the department following completion of an apprentice training program as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection.
- (b) The following licenses for solar thermal work may be issued by the department, [upon authorization] with the advice and assistance of the examining board for heating, piping, cooling and sheet metal work, under the provisions of section 20-333, as amended by this act, including an examination on solar work:
- (1) A solar thermal contractor's license may be issued to any person who (A) not later than July 1, 1984, (i) has been issued a P-1, P-3, S-1, S-3, S-5, S-7, D-1 or D-3 license under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section or installs at least six fully operational solar hot water heating systems, and (ii) qualifies for a solar thermal contractor's license under section 20-333, as amended by this act, or (B) has served as a solar thermal journeyman for not less than two years.
- 761 (2) A solar thermal journeyman's license may be issued to any person who (A) not later than July 1, 1984, (i) is issued a P-2, P-4, S-2, S-

4, S-6, S-8, D-2 or D-4 license under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of 763 764 this section, and (ii) qualifies for a solar thermal journeyman's license 765 under section 20-333, as amended by this act, (B) after July 1, 1984, is issued a P-2, P-4, S-2, S-4, S-6, S-8, D-2 or D-4 license under subdivision 766 767 (2) of subsection (a) of this section and whose bona fide apprenticeship 768 program includes instruction in solar thermal work, or (C) after July 1, 769 1984, completes a bona fide solar thermal work apprenticeship 770 program and has not less than two years' experience in solar thermal 771 work. A solar thermal journeyman may work only under the 772 supervision of a licensed solar thermal contractor.

- (3) A solar thermal apprentice's permit may be issued for the performance of solar thermal work for the purpose of training. Such work may be performed only under the supervision of a licensed solar thermal contractor or journeyman.
- Sec. 521. Subsection (b) of section 20-340b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 779 1, 2016):

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- (b) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, [to the contrary,] a public service technician may be issued a certificate of registration by the Department of Consumer Protection, [upon authorization of] <u>in consultation with</u> the Electrical Work Board, in lieu of any license which otherwise might be required under this chapter, which shall entitle the holder of such certificate to perform telecommunications electrical work only as provided in this section, provided the public service company, certified telecommunications provider or affiliate which employs the public service technician certifies to the [Electrical Work Board] <u>Department of Consumer Protection</u> that the employee has obtained such training and experience deemed necessary by the public service company, certified telecommunications provider or affiliate to perform telecommunications electrical work included in such employee's job functions.
- Sec. 522. Subsection (e) of section 20-340b of the general statutes is

repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 796 1, 2016):

- 797 (e) A public service company or certified telecommunications 798 provider employing a public service technician shall inform the 799 [Electrical Work Board] Department of Consumer Protection upon the 800 change in job description or termination of any registered public 801 service technician previously certified to the [board] department 802 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and upon the issuance or 803 termination of a trainee's certificate provided to an employee pursuant 804 to subsection (d) of this section.
- Sec. 523. Subsection (a) of section 20-372 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2016):
- 808 (a) The issuance of a license by the Department of Consumer 809 Protection shall be evidence that the person named in such license is 810 entitled to the rights and privileges of a licensed landscape architect 811 while such license remains valid. The board may deny or refuse to 812 authorize the issuance of a license by the department upon proof of the 813 commission by an applicant of any act or omission which would 814 constitute cause for disciplinary action under this chapter if committed 815 by a licensee. Any such denial or refusal of the board to authorize the 816 issuance of a license shall be a proposed final decision and submitted 817 to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection 818 (b) of section 21a-7, as amended by this act. The department shall keep 819 a record of the names and addresses of all licensed landscape 820 architects, which record shall be open to the public. The department 821 shall keep an index and record of each license. The license shall contain 822 the name of the person to whom issued and his address and principal 823 place of business. Licenses to practice landscape architecture shall 824 remain in full force until revoked or suspended for cause, as provided 825 in section 20-373, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 524. Section 20-373 of the general statutes is repealed and the

LCO No. 5995 2016LCO05995-R00-AMD.DOC **26** of 31

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

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After notice and opportunity for hearing as provided in the regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, the board may: (1) Suspend or revoke any license or registration issued pursuant to this chapter, (2) issue a letter of reprimand to any such license or registration holder, (3) place any such license or registration holder on probationary status with certain conditions, (4) issue a civil penalty in an amount not greater than one thousand dollars to any such license or registration holder, or (5) impose any combination of subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of this section if it is shown that the license registration obtained through or was fraud misrepresentation; or if the holder of the license or registration has been found guilty by the board or by a court of competent jurisdiction of any fraud or deceit in such license or registration holder's professional practice; or if the holder of the license or registration has been found guilty by the board of negligence or incompetency; or if the board has found that the licensee or registrant has violated any provision of this chapter, or the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter. Any action taken by the board pursuant to subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of this section shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7, as amended by this act. Appeals from the decisions of the [board] Commissioner of Consumer Protection may be taken as provided in section 4-183. The board may authorize the Department of Consumer Protection to reissue any license or registration which has been revoked, and the board may modify or discontinue any action taken by it pursuant to this section.

Sec. 525. Subsection (c) of section 20-494 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2016):

(c) The board may discontinue, suspend or rescind any action taken under subsection (a) or (b) of this section. Any such action taken by the board under subsection (a) or (b) of this section that is adverse to a

860 party shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the

- 861 commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of
- section 21a-7, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 526. Subsection (b) of section 20-494a of the general statutes is
- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July
- 865 1, 2016):
- 866 (b) The board may, after notice and hearing and with the consent of
- 867 the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, impose a civil penalty on
- 868 any person who (1) engages in or practices the work for which a
- license or permit is required by sections 20-490 to 20-495a, inclusive,
- 870 without having first obtained such a license or permit, (2) employs or
- 871 supplies for employment a person who does not have such a license or
- 872 permit, (3) falsely pretends to qualify to engage in or practice such
- work, (4) engages in or practices any of the work for which a license or
- permit is required by said sections after the expiration of such person's
- 875 license or permit, or (5) violates any of the provisions of said sections
- 876 or the regulations adopted pursuant to said sections. Such penalty
- 877 shall not exceed five thousand dollars for each violation, except that
- any individual employed as a home inspector intern but improperly
- registered shall not be penalized for a first offense.
- Sec. 527. Section 20-519 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):
- 882 Before refusing, suspending or revoking any certification or
- provisional license, or imposing any fine, the commission shall give
- 884 notice and afford an opportunity for hearing as provided in the
- 885 regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.
- 886 Any such refusal, suspension or revocation of a certification or license
- by the commission shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to
- the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b)
- of section 21a-7, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 528. Section 20-574 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

The commissioner shall exercise [general] supervision over the operations of the commission pursuant to sections 20-570 to 20-630, inclusive.

- Sec. 529. Subsection (a) of section 20-653 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2016):
- 898 (a) Any person seeking a license under the provisions of sections 20-899 650 to 20-656, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall apply to the board or the Department of Consumer Protection in writing on a form 900 901 provided by the board. Such application shall include the applicant's 902 name, residence address, business address and such other information 903 as the Commissioner of Consumer Protection may require by 904 regulation adopted in accordance with chapter 54 upon the 905 recommendation of the board.
- Sec. 530. Section 20-654 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):
  - (a) No person shall receive a license under the provisions of sections 20-650 to 20-656, inclusive, <u>as amended by this act</u>, until such person has passed an examination which shall be substantially similar to the examination of the National Court Reporters Association, or has submitted evidence satisfactory to the board <u>or the Department of Consumer Protection</u> that such person is a Registered Professional Reporter of the National Court Reporters Association or its equivalent.
- 915 (b) If the applicant satisfies the requirements of this section, upon 916 payment of the fee required by section 20-653, as amended by this act, 917 the board [shall authorize] or the Department of Consumer Protection 918 [to] shall issue a license to the applicant, showing that the person 919 named in such license is entitled to engage in the practice of shorthand 920 reporting in this state in accordance with the provisions of sections 20-921 650 to 20-656, inclusive, as amended by this act. Notwithstanding the 922 provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-10, any such license shall be 923 valid for a period of three years.

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(c) Any license issued under the provisions of sections 20-650 to 20-656, inclusive, as amended by this act, upon payment of the fee required by section 20-653, as amended by this act, may be renewed for a period of three years. As a condition of any such renewal, the licensee shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the board or the department that the licensee has completed not less than thirty continuing education credits since receipt of the initial license or the previous license renewal. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall, by regulation adopted in accordance with chapter 54 and upon the recommendation of the board, establish requirements for (1) the continuing education of licensed shorthand reporters; (2) the form and content of the examination shorthand reporters are required to pass to satisfy the licensure requirements set forth in subsection (a) of this section; and (3) such other matters as the commissioner deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

- (d) A licensee who has failed to renew such license for a period of over two years from the date of expiration of such license shall have it reinstated only upon complying with the examination requirements of this section.
- (e) Notwithstanding the provision of subsection (d) of this section, upon application and fee, the board <u>or the department</u> may [, at its discretion,] reinstate a lapsed license without examination, provided such application for reinstatement is accompanied by a notarized letter and supporting documentation attesting to the applicant's related experience in the field of shorthand reporting or similar work practice satisfactory to the board <u>or the department</u> from the time he or she had let such license lapse. Such applicant, upon approval by the board <u>or the department</u>, shall pay all back license and late fees.
- 952 Sec. 531. Section 20-656 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (f) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2016*):
- 954 (NEW) (f) Any such suspension or revocation of a license or 955 imposition of a civil penalty by the board shall be a proposed final

decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7, as amended by this act."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Sec. 501	July 1, 2016	21a-9
Sec. 502	July 1, 2016	20-294
Sec. 503	July 1, 2016	20-296
Sec. 504	July 1, 2016	20-302
Sec. 505	July 1, 2016	20-304
Sec. 506	July 1, 2016	20-304a(a)
Sec. 507	July 1, 2016	20-307a
Sec. 508	July 1, 2016	20-312
Sec. 509	July 1, 2016	20-313
Sec. 510	July 1, 2016	20-314(c)
Sec. 511	July 1, 2016	20-314(d)
Sec. 512	July 1, 2016	20-316(a)
Sec. 513	July 1, 2016	20-317(a)
Sec. 514	July 1, 2016	20-320
Sec. 515	July 1, 2016	20-320a
Sec. 516	July 1, 2016	20-325
Sec. 517	July 1, 2016	20-333
Sec. 518	July 1, 2016	20-333a
Sec. 519	July 1, 2016	20-334(c)
Sec. 520	July 1, 2016	20-334a(a) and (b)
Sec. 521	July 1, 2016	20-340b(b)
Sec. 522	July 1, 2016	20-340b(e)
Sec. 523	July 1, 2016	20-372(a)
Sec. 524	July 1, 2016	20-373
Sec. 525	July 1, 2016	20-494(c)
Sec. 526	July 1, 2016	20-494a(b)
Sec. 527	July 1, 2016	20-519
Sec. 528	July 1, 2016	20-574
Sec. 529	July 1, 2016	20-653(a)
Sec. 530	July 1, 2016	20-654
Sec. 531	July 1, 2016	20-656